



26 JUN 1979

OLC 79-1826

OS REGISTRY

FILE *Security 8*

Also: Liaison 10

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Revision of "Guidelines and Procedures for the Issuance of Compartmented Clearances to the Legislative Branch"

1. Action Requested: That you approve the insertion of a new paragraph "F" in the Guidelines in order to tighten the procedures for obtaining SCI clearances by Legislative Branch personnel. (U/IUO)

2. Background: On 21 July 1978, you approved the Guidelines mentioned in subject (Tab A). These were distributed throughout the Community and to the Senate and House Leadership and formally established a centralized Community handling of requests for compartmented access approval for employees of the Legislative Branch. These Guidelines spell out (in paragraph C) the requirement for a letter from the committee Chairman to the department or agency involved fully stating the Congressional requirement. However, this paragraph applies only to requests involving personnel from GAO and the Library of Congress. Nowhere do the Guidelines spell out how a clearance for a staff person on a Congressional committee or subcommittee should be submitted. (U/IUO)

Since last July, due mainly to the SAL Treaty, we have had more than the usual number of requests for clearances. Since one of the purposes of centralizing Community handling of the requests was to decrease SCI clearances where possible and the opposite has occurred, we feel we must take steps to tighten the procedures and cause more focus on the reasons for the requests. We feel one way this can be accomplished is to require a letter from the chairman of the committee (or subcommittee) making such a request. There is no requirement for this to be in writing at present. We suggest that a new paragraph F at Tab B be inserted in the Guidelines spelling out in exact terms that a letter signed by the chairman must be sent requesting the clearances, and listing the specific reasons why the clearances are required. This will cause more focus by the chairman and staff director, and we hope the number of requests will be decreased. (U/IUO)

3. Staff Position: The Office of Security has been consulted and is in agreement with the attached revision to the Guidelines. (U/IUO)

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4. Recommendation: That you approve the attached revised Guidelines
(Tab A). (U/IUO)

~~SIGINT~~

Frederick P. Hitz
Legislative Counsel

Attachments:
As Stated

/s/ Stansfield Turner

APPROVED: Director of Central Intelligence

DISAPPROVED: Director of Central Intelligence

DATE: 28 JUN 1979

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee w/atts

1 - OS w/atts

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OLC:JME:jms (21 June 79)

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